



## **Iowa Crop Progress & Condition**



Upper Midwest Regional Field Office · 210 Walnut Street Ste 833 · Des Moines IA 50309 · (515) 776-3400 · (800) 772-0825 Fax (855) 271-9802 · www.nass.usda.gov

Cooperating with the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship

For the week ending September 22, 2019 Issued September 23, 2019 Media Contact: Greg Thessen

Another week of heavy rainfall across Iowa allowed just 3.3 **days suitable for fieldwork** statewide during the week ending September 22, 2019, according to the USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service. Fieldwork activities included harvesting hay and seed corn, chopping silage, and seeding cover crops.

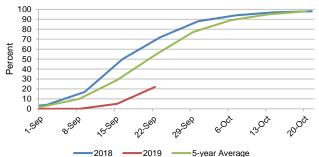
**Topsoil moisture** condition was rated 1 percent very short, 7 percent short, 75 percent adequate and 17 percent surplus. Precipitation this past week helped increase topsoil moisture levels in all districts; however, the Southeast District remains the driest with a topsoil moisture rating of 36 percent short to very short. **Subsoil moisture** condition was rated 2 percent very short, 9 percent short, 79 percent adequate and 10 percent surplus.

Nearly all of the **corn** crop was in or beyond the dough stage at 97 percent complete statewide, over 2 weeks behind the 5-year average. Eighty-two percent of the crop has reached the dented stage or beyond, 17 days behind last year and 12 days behind average. Eighteen percent of corn reached maturity, 19 days behind last year and 2 weeks behind average. There were a few reports of farmers in the central Iowa district that harvested corn for grain this past week. Corn condition rated 65 percent good to excellent. Sixty-five percent of the **soybean** crop has begun coloring or beyond, 11 days behind last year and 8 days behind average. Twenty-two percent of the crop has begun dropping leaves, 12 days behind last year and 9 days behind

average. There were also a few reports of soybeans being harvested in the west central and central Iowa districts. Soybean condition rated 62 percent good to excellent.

The third cutting of **alfalfa hay** reached 87 percent, just over a week behind average. **Pasture condition** rated 43 percent good to excellent. Continuous rainfall this past week caused feedlots to become muddy.





Crop Condition as of September 22, 2019

Item	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Corn Soybeans Pasture and	2 2	7 7	26 29	53 51	12 11
range	4	12	41	38	5

Crop Progress as of September 22, 2019

	Districts								State				
Item	NW	NC	NE	WC	С	EC	SW	SC	SE	This week	Last week	Last year	5-yr average
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)										
Corn dough	93	98	99	95	98	98	93	99	97	97	94	100	100
Corn dented	80	82	91	77	85	89	79	77	68	82	74	97	95
Corn mature	16	7	19	15	31	16	15	33	18	18	8	71	55
Hay, alfalfa, third cutting	95	96	95	95	99	91	89	73	79	87	84	97	92
Soybeans coloring	61	91	80	70	75	59	46	42	42	65	40	92	87
Soybeans dropping leaves	18	27	26	26	32	21	12	11	12	22	5	69	54

## Days Suitable for Fieldwork and Soil Moisture Condition as of September 22, 2019

	Districts										State		
Item	NW	NC	NE	WC	С	EC	SW	SC	SE	This week	Last week	Last year	
	(days)	(days)											
Days suitable	3.1	2.7	2.5	2.6	3.0	3.5	3.9	4.8	4.9	3.3	3.7	3.0	
	(percent)	(percent)											
Topsoil moisture													
Very short	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	3	8	1	1	1	
Short	2	1	4	1	6	9	9	16	28	7	13	3	
Adequate	78	87	79	84	74	67	72	67	57	75	81	71	
Surplus	20	12	17	15	20	23	19	14	7	17	5	25	
Subsoil moisture													
Very short	0	0	0	0	1	4	0	4	11	2	3	3	
Short	2	3	2	1	9	10	11	19	42	9	18	5	
Adequate	80	87	87	90	84	74	71	71	47	79	76	66	
Surplus	18	10	11	9	6	12	18	6	0	10	3	26	

## IOWA PRELIMINARY WEATHER SUMMARY Provided by Justin Glisan, Ph.D., State Climatologist Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship

Reports from the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship and maps from the Midwestern Regional Climate Center reflect data collected from 7:00 A.M. Central Time on September 16, 2019, through 7:00 A.M. Central Time on September 22, 2019.

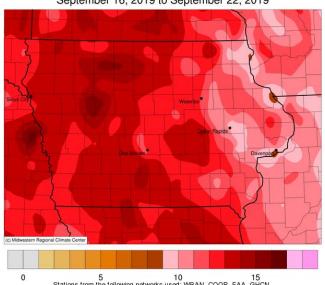
Unseasonable warmth and wetness prevailed across Iowa during the reporting period. Above-average rain fell across the state with portions of Iowa reporting up to 3.00 inches more than normal. This was also the warmest week for Iowa since the reporting period ending on July 22<sup>nd</sup>; the statewide average temperature was 73.6 degrees, 12.9 degrees warmer than expected.

Thunderstorms cleared extreme southeastern Iowa by Sunday (15th) afternoon as a high pressure system moved into northern Iowa. Skies cleared through the early evening hours as unseasonable warmth blanketed the state. Highs reached into the mid to upper 80s with the statewide average high of 86 degrees, 11 degrees above normal. Monday (16<sup>th</sup>) was another warm and dry day under sunny skies with southerly winds. Highs reached into the low 90s across multiple stations in southern Iowa. Overnight lows into Tuesday (17<sup>th</sup>) were well above average, remaining in the upper 60s and low 70s. Parts of northwestern Iowa were up to 26 degrees above average. The statewide average low was 65 degrees, 15 degrees above average. Showers and thunderstorms started to pop up in northwestern Iowa ahead of a warm front just after midnight on Wednesday (18th). The narrow band of thunderstorms propagated into eastern Iowa during the afternoon. The line fell apart during the evening hours with isolated stronger storms popping up in east-central Iowa. A new complex of thunderstorms pushed into Iowa just before midnight. Two-day rain totals at 7:00 am on Thursday (19th) showed a vast majority of Iowa received measurable rainfall. The highest amounts were found in Iowa's northeastern quadrant with over 30 National Weather Service stations reporting over an inch; Osage (Mitchell County) observed 3.45 inches with the statewide average rainfall at 0.74 inch.

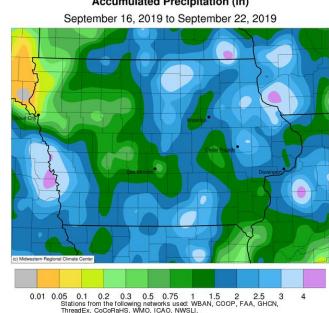
Another line of thunderstorms formed across northern and eastern Iowa early Friday (20<sup>th</sup>) morning and slowly moved east. The line gradually dissipated near the Iowa-Illinois border after noon. Conditions for the rest of the day were unseasonably warm under sunny skies. Highs reached into mid to upper 80s with the statewide average high hitting 84 degrees, 11 degrees above normal. Clouds pushed into Iowa overnight into Saturday (21st) holding overnight temperatures in the low 70s, up to 24 degrees above average. Cloudy conditions persisted throughout the day as showers and thunderstorms moved into southern Iowa. The complex moved out of the state during the evening hours. Stronger thunderstorms ahead of a low pressure system moved into southwestern Iowa after 9:00 pm and expanded across much of the state's western half. Rain expanded into eastern Iowa through the early morning hours of Sunday (22<sup>nd</sup>). Rain totals at 7:00 am were largest in southern Iowa with nine stations reporting 2.00 inches or more. Centerville and Rathbun Dam (Appanoose County) reported 3.60 inches and 2.71 inches, respectively. The statewide average rainfall was 0.81 inch.

Weekly rainfall totals ranged from 0.02 inch in Hawarden (Sioux County) to 4.71 inches at Nora Springs (Floyd County). The statewide weekly average precipitation was 1.74 inches, while the normal is 0.77 inch. The week's high temperature of 93 degrees was reported on the 15<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> at multiple stations in south-central Iowa. This reading was on average 17 degrees above normal. Britt (Hancock County) and Forest City (Winnebago County) reported the week's low temperature of 52 degrees on the 16<sup>th</sup>, two degrees below normal.





## **Accumulated Precipitation (in)**



Temperature and Precipitation Maps, courtesy of the Midwestern Regional Climate Center, are available at: http://mrcc.isws.illinois.edu/CLIMATE/